

10 January 1955

THRU : Chief, St/I/R
: Chief, D/S
Chief, S/TR

Comment on Draft of Foreign Service Shipping Manual Section 576,
Volume 3, Part III - Merchant Shipping and Shipbuilding; Ports
and Harbors.

1. In response to your memorandum of 3 January the following suggestions are made with respect to revision of subject manual. In Section 576.5 A.1. it is suggested that the question of economic and political dependence upon the contribution of shipping be brought out more definitely. This topic appears to be suggested in the section but is of sufficient importance in some countries (Japan and Norway, for example) to be handled as a separate topic.

2. In 576.5 C.1.a it is suggested that fleet composition data include vessels of 100 GRT and over, in contrast to the usual cutoff point of 1000 GRT and over. This will greatly expand the number of vessels covered and more accurately reflect actual capabilities.

3. In 576.5 C.1.b it is suggested that the questions be expanded to include the tonnage and type of vessel operating on the various routes served.

4. In 576.5 C.4. b it is suggested that operating cost data be expanded to include specific data on ships and cargo handling costs. It would be especially useful to receive data on ton-kilometer costs of ship operations and ton costs of handling cargo in foreign and domestic ports. It is recognized that data on ship operations costs and cargo handling costs might be considered to fall within the province of 576.5 C.6 (Traffic Statistics).

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